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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/996,019	11/28/2001	Satoru Maeda	450101-03634	2691

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THANH T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2144

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/996,019	MAEDA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tammy T Nguyen	2144	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE (3) MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |



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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the application 09/996,019 filed. **November 28, 2001.**
2. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1,2, 9,10, 11, 13, 19, and 20 are recites the limitation "The identification information" in claims 1,9,10, 11, 19, and 20, the limitation " the serial number" in claim 3, and the limitation "the identification" in claim 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims –1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Reed et al. (USPN 6,345,288 – Date of Patent: February 5, 2002, herein referred to as “Reed”).

7. As to claim 1, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, including an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising: recording means (consumer database 21 of fig.1) for recording the identification information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1)(transfer, maintain, and update the information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30); receiving means (distribute server 32 of fig.1) for receiving the identification information on said other information processing apparatus, sent from said other information processing apparatus, when said other information processing apparatus is connected via said network (see col.13, lines 25-50); verifying means (Distribute server 32 of fig.1) for verifying whether or not said identification

information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said other recording means (determine whether the information has changed, see col.13, lines 31-51); and controlling means (consumer computer 22 of fig.1)for controlling said other information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by said verifying means (perform certain functions with regard to that changed information, see col.13, lines 25-51).

8. As to claim 2, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said identification information includes the serial number of said other information processing apparatus (see col.24, lines 25-58).
9. As to claim 3, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said controlling means causes said other information processing apparatus to execute first setting processing when it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said recording means, said controlling means causing said other information processing apparatus to execute second setting processing when it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has not as yet been recorded in said recording means (see col.13, line 32 to col.14, line 20).
10. As to claim 4, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said first and setting processing and the second setting processing represent setting processing necessary for said other information processing apparatus to utilize said network (see col.14, lines 39-61).

11. As to claim 5, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said controlling means sends an address on said network of a server used for connecting said other information processing apparatus to said network, to said other information processing apparatus, and sets the address so sent, as the information necessary for said other information processing apparatus to utilize said network (see col.14, line 62 to col.15, line 27).
12. As to claim 6, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said recording means further records the inherent information for specifying a user of said other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of figure 1); said controlling means requests transmission of said inherent information to said other information processing apparatus if it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said recording means (see col.26-51).
13. As to claim 7, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said inherent information includes a password (see col.72, lines 28-55).
14. As to claim 8, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein if it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has as yet not been recorded on said recording means, said controlling means requests said other information processing apparatus to transmit the information on a user exploiting said other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1)(transfer, maintain, and update the information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30).

15. As to claim 9, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, including an information processing method for an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising: a recording controlling step of controlling the recording of the identification information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1)(transfer, maintain, and update the information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30, and col.13); a receiving step of receiving the identification information on said other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1), sent from said other information processing apparatus when said other information processing apparatus is connected via said network (communication network of fig.1)(see col.13, lines 25-50); a verifying step of verifying whether or not said identification information received by processing in said receiving step has already been controlled as to recording in said other recording step in the processing in said recording controlling step (determine whether the information has changed, see col.13, lines 31-51); and a controlling step of controlling said other information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by the processing in said verifying step (perform certain functions with regard to that changed information, see col.13, 25-51).
16. As to claim 10, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, including a recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program controlling an information processing apparatus connected to a network, said program including: a recording controlling step of controlling the recording of the identification information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1)(transfer,

- maintain, and update the information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30, and col.13); a receiving step of receiving the identification information on said other information processing apparatus, sent from said other information processing apparatus when said other information processing apparatus is connected via said network (communication network of fig.1)(see col.13, lines 25-50); a verifying step of verifying whether or not said identification information received by the processing in said receiving step has already been controlled as to recording in the processing in said recording controlling step (determine whether the information has changed, see col.13, lines 31-51); and a controlling step of controlling said other information processing apparatus over said network based on-verified results by the processing in said verifying step (perform certain functions with regard to that changed information, see col.13, 25-51).
17. As to claim 11, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, including an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising: storage means for storing the identification information (consumer database 21 of fig.1)(see col. 14, lines 21-38); transmission means for transmitting said identification information stored in said storage means over said network to an other information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1)(transfer, maintain, and update the information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30, and col.13); receiving means (distribute server 32 of fig.1) for receiving the control information transmitted from said other information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted from said transmission means(see

- col.13, lines 25-50); and setting means for setting the information necessary for utilizing said network based on said control information received by said receiving means (perform certain functions with regard to that changed information, see col.13, 25-51).
18. As to claim 12, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said setting means sets the information necessary for exploiting said network in a first mode when said control information received by said receiving means is the first control information; said setting means setting the information necessary for exploiting said network in a second mode when said control information received by said receiving means is the second control information (see col.58, lines 1-31).
19. As to claim 13, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said setting means executes first setting processing when the identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said other information processing apparatus; said setting means executing second setting processing when the identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said other information processing apparatus (see col.13, lines 10-50).
20. As to claim 14, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said first setting processing and the second setting processing represent information setting processing necessary for said information processing apparatus to exploit said network (see fig.1)(object push email or http).

21. As to claim 15, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said setting means receives an address on said network of a server connecting said information processing apparatus to said network, as the information necessary in exploiting said network, and sets the so received address (fig.1) (see col.14, lines 39-61).
22. As to claim 16, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said other information processing apparatus further stores the inherent information used for specifying a user of said information processing apparatus (provider computer 1 of fig.1) setting means transmitting said inherent information to said other information processing apparatus if said identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said other information processing apparatus (see col.10-51).
23. As to claim 17, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said inherent information includes a password (see col.72, lines 28-55).
24. As to claim 18, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, wherein said setting means transmits the information pertinent to a user employing said other information processing apparatus to said other information processing apparatus if said identification information transmitted by said transmission means has as yet not been recorded in said other information processing apparatus (see col.13, line 52 to col.14, line 20).
25. As to claim 19, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, including an information processing method for an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising: a storage controlling step of controlling the storage of the identification information (consumer database 21 of fig.1) (transfer, maintain, and update the

information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30); a transmission step of transmitting said identification information controlled as to storage by processing in said storage controlling step over said network to an other information processing apparatus (provider computer of fig.1) (se col.13, lines 25-50); a receiving step of receiving the control information transmitted from said other information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step, and a setting step of setting the information necessary for utilizing said network based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step (see col.13, line 67 to col.14, line 61).

26. As to claim 20, Reed teaches the invention as claimed, including a recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program controlling an information processing apparatus connected to a network, said program including a storage controlling step of controlling the storage of the identification information (consumer database 21 of fig.1) (transfer, maintain, and update the information at between consumer and provider locations, see col.13, lines 10-30); a transmission step of transmitting said identification information controlled as to storage by processing in said storage controlling step over said network to an other information processing apparatus (provider computer of fig.1) (se col.13, lines 25-50); a receiving step of receiving the control information transmitted from said other information processing apparatus over said network based on said identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step, and a setting step of setting the information

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necessary for utilizing said network based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step (see col.13, line 67 to col.14, line 61).


Conclusion

27. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tammy T. Nguyen** who may be reached via telephone at **(571) 272-3929**. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. eastern standard time.

If you need to send the Examiner, a facsimile transmission regarding this instant application, please send it to **(703) 872-9306**. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Bill Cuchlinski, may be reached at **(571) 272-3925**.

TTN

January 20, 2005


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